

Bloomfield Citizen.

WEEKLY JOURNAL

PUBLISHED BY
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This Citizen solicits contributions from the general public on any subject—political, religious, educational, or social—as long as they do not contain any personal attacks.

All communications must be accompanied by the writer's name, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of good faith. Advertisements for insertion in the current week must be in hand not later than Friday noon.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1906.

Conference Called.

A call for a conference of citizens of New Jersey to discuss political conditions in this State has been issued over the signatures of upwards of seventy-five residents representing all parts of the State. The conference will be held in the new auditorium, Orange street, Newark, at noon on Tuesday the 20th inst. The call sets forth as follows:

DEAR SIR: Political conditions were never before so unsettled in the United States as at the present time. Party affiliations have been and are being severed because men are beginning to understand that their parties, as now constituted, no longer represent the principles in which they believe. To students of politics two important truths, one the antithesis of the other, are apparent in the present condition: 1. The machinery of the two old parties has fallen completely under the control of corporate influences and other privileged interests. 2. The spirit of independence has reached its highest point in the history of American politics. While this statement is true of the country as a whole, it is peculiarly descriptive of the condition in New Jersey. In this State party leadership has been and is completely dominated by corporate influences. Party principles have been trampled under foot, party honor has been bartered for corporate pelf, party banners have been trailed in the filth of political corruption.

Is it any wonder that chaos has taken the place of party organization? Is it strange that men hesitate to admit their connection with any political party in New Jersey?

Bad as is the condition, forbidding as the situation appears from this condition, out of that situation may yet arise the grandest temple of political freedom, honor and purity ever seen in our beloved State. It has been said that "when things go, the country will right themselves," implying that, in public affairs, there is a point in the decline at which the people will revolt, and inspired by the spirit of honor and pride, will rally at the call of duty and check the downward course. We believe that New Jersey has reached that point.

Dishonored in our party councils, betrayed in our legislative assembly, chained to the wheels of unbridled monopoly, a butt for the jokes of one-half of the world, and commiserated by the other half, the citizens of New Jersey have come to the time when they must assert their manhood and their patriotism. Realizing the truths set out in the foregoing and impelled by the desire to add in the work of rescuing the State from the danger in which it is engulfed, and to restore to the people their rights which have been bartered away, the undersigned appeal to you for co-operation. We do not underestimate the powers arrayed against the people, but we believe that there is sufficient of the spirit of true democracy still left in New Jersey, if properly organized, to overthrow the forces of selfishness and corruption and to place our commonwealth once more in the front rank of American States.

Bowling. The prize bowling contest to be held this afternoon and evening at Lyceum Hall will bring together the largest crowd of crack bowlers ever assembled in Bloomfield. The valuable prizes offered will draw large delegations from Newark, the Oranges, Montclair and Belleville, while all local teams will have their best men there to see to it that the best prize remain in town. Bowling will start at 1 P. M. and continue until midnight.

Bloomfield Centre Bowling Club won three games from the Essex Lyceum team on Leuthausen's alleys Tuesday night. The scores were: First game, Centres, 738; Lyceum, 635. Second game, Centres, 822; Lyceum, 641. Third game, Centres, 758; Lyceum, 663. A return match will be rolled on the Essex alleys next Tuesday night.

An Early Claim.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN: Sir: A proposition to adopt a building ordinance in any municipality is a matter vitally affecting organized labor. It is a building inspector to be appointed he must be a union man. If organized labor could have its way there would be no fear of the erection of unsightly, unsafe and unsanitary houses in Bloomfield. Organized labor represents the best labor in the market, and the people who will not employ the best labor cannot be depended upon to use the best material or the best plans, or anything else that ranks in the class of the best.

If a building inspector is to be appointed the people will demand the appointment of a good practical mechanic, and such one cannot be found outside of the ranks of organized labor.

Substitute for "Bishops' Bills." Ex-Judge Alfred Skinner has prepared a liquor bill for the State Liquor Dealers Association, which the Legislature has been asked to accept as a substitute for the "bishops' bills."

The bill submitted by Mr. Skinner prohibits the selling or offering of liquor to women in saloons, particularly in rear or side rooms, unless the women shall be accompanied by a male relative. Violations of this provision make the violator a disorderly person, punishable under the disorderly act.

Any girl or woman who enters a saloon unaccompanied by a male relative, as provided by the act, is also made a disorderly person, punishable as mentioned. Any male person accompanying a woman into a saloon when he is not a relative of the woman, is likewise made a disorderly person and punishable under the disorderly act.

This bill permits the screens to remain as at present and reduces the age of persons to whom it shall be illegal to sell liquor from twenty-one, as in the "bishops' bills," to eighteen years.

There was a lively discussion at the conference on various provisions of the "bishops' bills" and the substitute bills. Besides the members of the committee, those present were Peter Bankes and Rev. Edward J. Knight of Newark, representing the committee of clergymen, and former Judge Skinner, for Mr. John Hinchliff, and Michael Dunn of Paterson representing the liquor men.

There is some talk that the committee is unlikely to report either the "bishops' bills" or the proposed substitute, but will draw a substitute bill of its own which will be reported.

It is said that the compromise bill will not compel the removal of screens, but will prohibit all side or rear rooms in connection with a saloon.

Empire Theatre.

It was not so very long ago that an audience felt quite compensated for going to the theatre if it was enabled to get three hearty laughs out of some farce comedy. Nowadays, play lovers refuse absolutely to accept farce without embellishment, and require in addition to the story 15 or 20 musical numbers, an endless parade of pretty girls, an augmented orchestra and scenery and costumes that would have been impossible in the days when "The Mikado" was produced at the Savoy Theatre, London, on two weeks' notice.

Such a combination of merriment and melody is said to be "The Earl and the Girl," which the Messrs. Shubert are to offer on Monday evening, March 19, for one week at the Empire Theatre, Newark. The piece is the work of Seymour Hicks, Ivan Caryll and Percy Greenbank, who have been responsible for a great many successes of the kind.

The presenting company is headed by Eddie Foy, a comedian whose mirth provoking qualities are well-known. Besides Mr. Foy there are eighty-four other artists, including Amelia Summer, Victor Morley, Laura Moore, Violet Hollis, Templar Saxe and Nellie McCoy. There are also a host of stunning girls direct from the Casino Theatre where this musical whirl had a run of over two hundred nights. The production in its entirety is the original one which so emphatically scored a success in New York city.

Library Notes.

The spring output of the publishers seems to vie with the spring growth in our gardens, but thus far, in spite of the warm sunshine, our library shelves are filling up faster than our garden beds.

"Barbara Winlow Rebel," in dainty binding, stands shoulder to shoulder with the venturesome, lovable and much tried "Sage-brush Family." "The Story of an East-side Family" gives a graphic picture of some of the problems of the poor; in four books by the irrepressible J. K. Bangs we are relieved to discover that this writer's fund of humor seems in no immediate danger of giving out. "Yal" is a story of the love of a Polish musician for the daughter of an American millionaire and is a musical novel written mostly in a minor key, Yal being the Polish expression for sorrow. For those who have time to follow an exhaustive (and sometimes exhausting) analysis of emotions and motives, there are two novels by Henry James, "The Sacred Fount" and "Wings of the Dove."

The most remarkable piece of work lately added to the library in the way of fiction is probably a short story by Mrs. Burnett which appeared in two installments in the December and January *Edwards' Magazine*. "The Dawn of a Tomorrow," "It sounds a note of inspiration, of cheer, of practical idealism that makes the clever realism, the cynical wit of a former able writer seem poor in itself. The children have loved Mrs. Burnett ever since she introduced them to "Little Lord Fauntleroy" and "Sarah Crewe." She has since then written many interesting things of "Barbarians" which were left out at the first writing, and we now find them in "The Little Princess." The original illustrations, done in oils for this book by Ethel F. Bates, are exhibited at the library, and thanks are again due to Charles Scribner's Sons for their courtesy in making us a loan of such interest and value.

In *Harper's Magazine* for March there are eight complete short stories and a wonderful frontispiece in full color by Edwin A. Abbey, R. A.

Publicity of Assessments.

A President Bacon of the Jersey City Tax Board favors publicity of tax assessments. He proposes that the law shall require the publication each year in a municipality of the assessments levied on all taxable property contained therein, whether owned by individuals or corporations.

It is argued that the man who pays taxes has a right to know whether his neighbor property owner is paying at an equal rate of assessment. By the exercise of this right discrimination by assessors could be held in wholesome check, and as a consequence there would be a much higher percentage of assessment. When all property is to be assessed at the full value any deviation from that standard by assessors would appear at once in the published list.

Publicity would also be especially effective as to personal valuations of man owning \$20,000 of visible personalty would hesitate about appearing in print with an assessment for \$500 or \$1,000. He would also be impelled to give some adequate account of his intangible personalty.

Plea for Fair Play.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN:

SIR: Permit me to suggest to your interesting and versatile correspondents, Mr. Howes, whose favorable opinion enables him to extract rays of virtue from all the dark and seamy sides of life, that he give us something on "the other side" of the saloon question. The saloon is now the subject of severe arraignment on the part of its opponents as panthe "bishops' bills."

Now the saloon is a long established and popular institution, and there must be some good reason for its tolerance and for its popularity. Good citizens are found among saloon-keepers, perhaps in as large proportion as among any other class of business men. The families of saloon-keepers compare very favorably in point of respectability with the families of many of those who are opponents of the saloon. In the business life of a community the saloon-keeper is treated as an important and influential factor. His patronage is sought after and catered to in the same manner and with the same eagerness as that of any other business man in the town. All things considered, why is it that the saloon-keeper and his business are subjected to constant attack?

The saloon-keeper's business is that of selling light beverages, both intoxicating and non-intoxicating, but he has no monopoly of the business. He has strong competition from the drug stores, the grocery stores, and unlicensed dealers in liquor, and the street complaint against the saloon is that it destroys the home life, the same cause of complaint applies with double force against grocery stores that sell liquors and other things more dangerous in their effects than the vilest kind of whiskey. The same indictment that is made against the saloon will hold good against all the competitors of the saloon that cater to the great demand for stimulants of one kind and another. If the saloon business is to be subjected to such rigid restrictions as proposed in the "bishops' bills," why not place equally some restraint upon the saloon's competitors? FAIR PLAY.

The Sidewalk Question.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN:

SIR: I do not know Mr. Hausser of Bloomfield avenue, but judging from the report of his remarks before the Town Council on the subject of sidewalks, I believe he is the right kind of a new comer in town. It does seem surprising that in Valhalla, Glen Ridge, East Orange, Montclair, and other places the governing body can and does take arbitrary action in the matter of flagstone sidewalks by putting down such walks in important thoroughfares without all the red tape of petition that the local government requires to be observed before it will act on sidewalk improvements. Bloomfield avenue, Glenwood avenue, and all streets Myrtle street, Orchard street, and other streets are illustrations of the necessity for arbitrary action on the part of the Council in the matter of sidewalks. A few startling people on some of these streets have of their individual account put down sidewalks in front of their properties, while many laggards are still content with the primitive mud sidewalks, and will doubtless rest content with the same unless forced to do something by the action of the Town Council. If surrounding municipalities can find legal means of ordering sidewalks put down without forcing people to sign a petition and put up one hundred dollars, Bloomfield ought to be able to do the same thing and should do it.

County Parks.

In the annual report of the Essex County Park Commission reference is made to new park enterprises. Several requests, the report says, have been made to the commission during the past year for the location of new parks of small area in thickly settled portions of the county. This board, says the report, "has always been in favor of neighborhood parks and realizes that the population of a community grows their number should increase."

It should be frankly stated, however, that the commission has no funds with which to carry out any such undertakings. In the report issued just before the last appropriation was voted by the people, a statement was made showing clearly what the money would be used for if received. This schedule included the establishment of no new parks. The board also said, report for 1901, page 18, "The commission would be unwilling to take the initiative in asking for any further appropriations."

With this report before them the people approved the contemplated expenditure. The park commission, therefore, feels that it must vary this programme as little as possible, and after carrying out its essential features the construction account will be practically exhausted. The board itself, at this time, can ask for no more money for construction. Some of the new projects presented have, however, and would, if carried out, be beneficial to the community and improve the general park system. But the initiative in securing additional funds must come from the people themselves. If they desire more neighborhood parks and can put this board in possession of sufficient money to secure them, the commission will gladly undertake to incorporate them into the county system. The commissioners believe that the time will come when the necessity of such additions will be so clearly manifest that they will be secured.

A Lost Hare.

Mrs. H. B. Woodward of Montclair visited Mrs. C. B. Woodruff of Park street during the past week, and on her way home lost a muff valued at \$75. Mrs. Woodward got in a Crostown car at Park street, and in her hurry to get a Montclair car at the centre she left her muff in the Crostown car. There were only three or four passengers in the Crostown car. Mrs. Woodward discovered her loss before she got on the Montclair car, but in the meantime the Crostown car was out of sight.

A telephone message was sent at once to the car station in Orange, but so far no lost muff could be obtained. The conductor said he did not see it.

Katie Kintoch.

Mrs. C. O. Elbert of Ashland avenue gave a Klatch last Thursday afternoon to the ladies of the Pleasant Bowling Club. Those present were Mrs. Weeber and Mrs. Paulsen from New York, Mrs. Ashby, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Belding, Miss Leuthausen, Mrs. Van Rensselaer, Mrs. Morgan and Mrs. Bush of this town.

Aids to Bible Study.

A SUGGESTIVE LIST OF BOOKS IN THE JARVIS MEMORIAL LIBRARY.

Reference Books.		
Bible, Riverside parallel Bible.	1200	100
Brewer, Dictionary of biblical names.	1200	100
Hastings, Dictionary of the Bible.	1200	100
McClintock and Strong, Cyclopaedia of biblical, theological and ecclesiastical literature.	1200	100
Schaff, History of the Christian Church.	1200	100
Religious encyclopaedia, 4 v.	1200	100
Vincent, Word studies in the New Testament.	1200	100
Young, Analytical concordance to the Bible.	1200	100
Bible, Whole.	1200	100
Adams, Creation of the Bible.	1200	100
Blakie, Manual of Bible history.	1200	100
Chayne, Bible problems.	1200	100
Hastings, Inspiration.	1200	100
Howe, Evolution of the English Bible.	1200	100
Houghton, Telling Bible stories.	1200	100
Houlton, Literary study of the Bible.	1200	100
Saunders, Bible in court.	1200	100
Bible, Old Testament.	1200	100
Bible, New Testament.	1200	100
Conway, Solomon and Solomon's literature.	1200	100
Davidson, Book of Job.	1200	100
Davidson, Wisdom and literature of the Old Testament.	1200	100
Geikie, Hours with the Bible, 6 v.	1200	100
Kent, Student's Old Testament.	1200	100
McClintock, Introduction to the Old Testament.	1200	100
Smith, Old Testament history.	1200	100
One, Rich and poor in the New Testament.	1200	100
Geikie, New Testament hours, 4 v.	1200	100
Rennan, Apostles.	1200	100
Rennan, History of the sacred scriptures of the New Testament, 3 v.	1200	100
Stevens and Burton, Harmony of the Gospels.	1200	100
Andrews, Lives of Jesus Christ.	1200	100
Burton and Matthews, Constructive studies in the life of Christ.	1200	100
Ederstrom, Life and times of Jesus, the Messiah.	1200	100
Farrar, Life of Christ.	1200	100
Geikie, Life and words of Christ, 2 v.	1200	100
Olbert, Student's life of Jesus.	1200	100
Rennan, Life of Jesus.	1200	100
Hughes, Manhood of Christ.	1200	100

A couple of hundred copies of the above have been printed and may be obtained at the library.

Woman's Relief Corps.

There was a large attendance of members at the Woman's Relief Corps meeting last week. A guest from Massachusetts, whom the members were glad to see, was present, and she spoke of the interest in the corps work around Boston and their help to the Grand Army. The treasurer reported an increase in the soldiers' monument fund of two dollars since last month. The corps meets on the second Thursday of each month.

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1-3 P. M. 10 GOVERNMENT ST.

6-8 P. M. 10 GOVERNMENT ST.

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Strike 2! 1902
Strike 3! 1906?
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